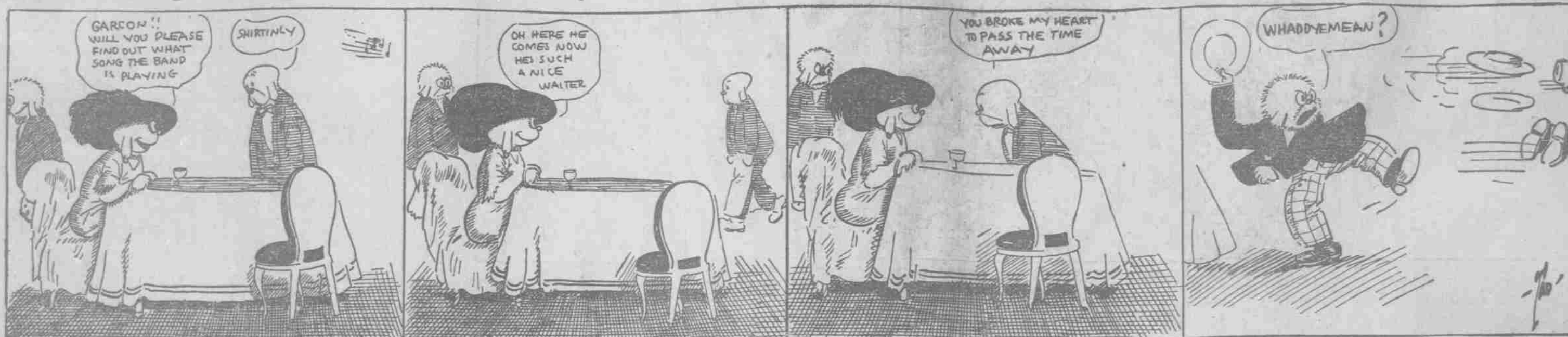


## Silk Hat Harry's Escapades

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Yes, Whaddyemean?



(Creations of this noted cartoonist are regular features of The El Paso Herald.)

## Regulars Just Cover Up and Let Federals Fight

So Called Outlaws Are Doing All the Footwork in Bout With Organized Baseball, O. B. Was Overbalanced in Only Poke It Has Taken at Ranks of the Regulars.

BY DAMON RUNYON.

NEW YORK, Jan. 26.—So far organized baseball has led just once at the Federal league, and that lead only served to slightly overbalance O. B. Itself and give the Feds an opening for another poke later on. If there is any later on to the Feds, and O. B. seems content to merely cover up and let the Feds do all the footwork and most of the talking.

If it wasn't for Ben Johnson, and Charley Ebbets, Charley Murphy, and Garry Herrmann, and a few others, O. B. would be in a strange condition of almost total silence, as well as inactivity, and even the vocal forces mentioned are about to be considerably reduced because Ben Johnson says he is going to quit speaking to Ed Sweeney.

O. B. has evidently adopted a policy of waiting and saying nothing, aside from four or five columns a day. The feeling among the magnates of the two big leagues is that the Feds will just naturally peter out, and meantime the Feds are going along making such a lot of noise that the fans cannot help but hear some of it.

It is true that some of the big league owners scolded about the country signing up their players to long time contracts, which indicates that they do not intend taking any chances in case the Feds last for any length of time, but most of the magnates are back in their offices and send their documents out in the usual manner. Their attitude is complacent, than otherwise.

As a matter of fact, the thing about the Federal league that gives O. B. the greatest confidence is the downfall of the invaders is that proposed home between Kansas City and Toronto. When the Feds recently talked of installing clubs in Cincinnati and Brooklyn, organized baseball commenced to give the so-called outlaws credit for some judgment, but as long as they stick to Cincinnati and Brooklyn, the old magnates feel pretty sure that the Federal end is not far away.

Quite Another Yarn.

If the Feds were arranged, then, but that is quite another yarn.

It is very likely that organized baseball will not undertake any aggressive steps until the season opens. There has been talk of elaborating the international league to combine the Feds, but so far it is nothing but talk. The effort as now arranged, then, but that is quite another yarn.

## "Billy" Evans's Puzzling Problems of the Diamond

By Billy Evans

Famous American League Umpire.

PLAY that comes up every now and then in the majors and minors, but happens often on the sand lots, got a colored umpire in an awful jam last summer in a game played in Washington. Games between colored teams are common in Washington, and any time I have a chance to see one of the contests I always take it in. I usually get more fun out of watching a couple of colored teams in action than in taking in a good vaudeville show.

I happened to be taking a walk one Sunday last summer and accidentally bumped into a contest between two colored teams. It was a hard hitting contest and at the end of the eighth inning the two teams were tied with fourteen runs each. In the first of the ninth, one of the teams went into the lead by making a run. In the last half of the ninth after one was down, the batter singled and stole second. As he slid into the bag, he broke it from its fastenings, and the bag separated itself from the runner by some ten feet. While he was in the act of crawling on all fours to reach the bag, the second baseman, who had muffed the throw from the catcher, recovered the ball and touched the runner out.

The umpire reserved his decision, while the two captains, a couple of managers, eighteen players and as many more substitutes argued the matter. The umpire, after listening to much argument, decided that the runner was not out, that he was not to blame for the breaking of the strap. The captain of the team in the field insisted that the runner was responsible for the break and so had to follow the bag or be liable to be put out.

At this stage, some colored rooster discovered me and the crowd started in my direction. I wanted to escape, but there was no chance. They asked me if the umpire had ruled properly and I told them that, in declaring the man safe, he had rendered the proper verdict. "Not even the word of President Johnson would satisfy me," said the objecting captain, "I must see it in the rule book." The game ended there and the umpire forfeited it to the team at bat, for no-rule book could be found. Was I right in backing up the colored brother's ruling?

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## Answer to Yesterday's Problem.

ALTHOUGH this play comes up quite often, the umpire, in a majority of the cases, is the only person who notices it. This is due perhaps to the fact that the duty of the base umpire is to follow the base runner. The umpire back of the plate watches the fly ball, and where a great catch is possible, the attention of most of the players is riveted to that part of the field. This play is covered by section 13 of rule 16 which says: "The base runner is out if, when advancing bases, or forced to return to a base, he fail to touch the intervening base or bases, as the case may be, he may be put out by the ball being held by the fielder on any base he failed to touch." In the play cited the runner failed to touch second on the way back to first and there was nothing that the umpire could do other than to call him out when the fielder with the ball touched that base.—B. E.

## DOPE ON THE FIGHTERS

BENNY CHAVEZ is a probable opponent of Young Wolgast before the New Mexico A. C. in the near future. Wolgast arrived in El Paso Thursday afternoon from Clifton, where he has been boxing. Accompanied by his manager, Paul Wilson, he left over the Santa Fe for Albuquerque Friday morning, where he has a number of matches in prospect. Inability to get a match in the cause of leaving Clifton, according to Wolgast. Efforts of the promoters to secure Johnny Williams and Earl Puryear to meet the Californian at the mining town were fruitless. Chavez is now in Albuquerque and the promoters are making overtures to a number of boxers to meet him there.

Eddie Duffey and "Battling" Minor are slated to meet in a scheduled ten round bout tonight at Clifton. That both principals are in excellent physical condition and ready for a hard battle is the statement of Wolgast who trained Duffey for the fight. As the boys meet at catchweights, Minor, who weighs over 150, has a distinct advantage over the Brooklyn welterweight. Joe Herick, who is now in Morenci, writes that Duffey is quoted as a 2 to 1 favorite. Minor made a poor showing in the Juarez arena two weeks ago and is out to vindicate himself.

Jack Herick's ally regarding the success of Al Smallding in securing a ten round draw with him at Silver City, has arrived. Jack's new manager in a dispatch states that "Herick should have won. Did not get a scratch. Jack sends best regards to all friends in El Paso." The big middleweight will remain in Silver City for some time and then will return to El Paso. The new manager will continue on to Morenci to train Joe for his bout with "Kid" Ross, on Feb. 4.

## FIGHTERS RELEASED BY ARIZONA JUDGE

Prescott, Ariz., Jan. 26.—After deciding that Danny Mathews and Phil Knight really did engage in a prize fight when they met in the ring here January 9, superior Judge Frank O. Smith released both the lightweights from custody. He stated that they were innocent parties in the controversy over the state boxing law, and that they had already been sufficiently punished.

Judge Smith's interpretation of the law agrees in practically all details with that of attorney general George Fardy Bull, who says that any kind of a glove contest in the state is a prize fight and a violation of the law. Judge Smith says that boxing can be legally conducted, but there must be no prize, no seconds and no referee, and no blow of sufficient force to knock out a contestant if landed, must be struck.

## ADDITIONAL DATES ARE

New York, Jan. 26.—Secretary Foster of the New York Nationals announced he had added the following training dates to the club's training schedule: First team: March 26, 27, Galveston; second team: March 26, 27, Austin; third team: March 26, 27, San Antonio.

English lightweight DEFEATS LEO KELLY. St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 26.—Freddie Welsh, lightweight champion of England, defeated Leo Kelly of St. Louis in an eight round contest Thursday night.

Welsh was the aggressor from the start and never was in danger, knocking Kelly's hard opponents with ease. Welsh, who was announced, had been matched to box "Young" Shugrue in New York next week.

## INDOOR SPORTS

WHEN THE OFFICE FORCE LOAF



## Why Does Moran Get Johnson? Too Easy For Negro, Is Belief

BY JOHN E. WRAY.

T. LOUIS, Mo., Jan. 26.—One Frank Moran has been picked to face Jack Johnson in Paris, France, next June, and given the job of redeeming the title of world's champion fighter for the Caucasian race. Now why Frank Moran, in the name of all that's reasonable?

Who is Frank Moran, that he is entitled to a bout and a soft snap try at fame, in preference to several other scrappers of known worth? Why not Gunboat Smith, who proved that he is the master of Moran by beating that gentleman in Frisco in 20 rounds?

## Pretty Soft for Johnson.

Champion J. Arthur is approaching the serene and yellow. He is on the 35th lap in the race against Father Time and is beginning to tire. He has not had a fight worth the name since Stanley Ketchel sprang him on the ring floor, Oct. 16, 1909, over four years ago. He has grown lazy and otherwise has crumpled up; but even at that he looks good enough to stand off Moran for the stated limit of 20 rounds.

Gameness is about the only virtue of which Moran can boast.

Match Belongs to Smith.

Gunboat Smith has won the right to this battle and is the man the fight followers wanted to see in the ring with the black giant. Smith has the punch, has demonstrated his cleverness by defeating Sam Langford and has been improving in all his later bouts. He is supposed to have a clear time, nudged a saffron streak in the dorsal region; but it has not outcropped in any of his recent bouts, with the

pressure had he not done so. Johnson thought he was some fighter, but he never seemed to make much headway in several attempts against John Barleycorn.

## Why Not "Red" Held.

If the Feds want to get a capable umpire, there's one growing right here in St. Louis. He is "Red" Held, last year with the Pacific Coast league, who has won commendation from every league president for whom he worked. Starting out in the Oklahoma business, "Red" has handled teams from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast. He has a level head and can't be bluffed. If the Feds don't get him the big league will, shortly.

## How About Harry Howell?

Harry Howell is another umpire the Feds could land, who is familiar with the big league game and who has had practical experience in umpiring. The big league wanted Howell, prior to the famous Lohle eight hits game, pulled off here under the regime of Jack O'Connor. At the time, Howell was slated for a place on Johnson's staff. His connection with the Lohle incident cost him the favor of Ben B. Johnson and resulted in his being set

down to the "bush" circuits, where Harry has been working ever since. Howell worked in the Texas league last season and won the prize offered by the president of the organization for the best work during the season.

## FOURNIER MAY JUMP.

Tacoma, Wash., Jan. 26.—Jack Fournier, the star outfielder of the Chicago White Sox, received a telegram from Joe Tinker, offering a three year contract in the Federal league. Fournier said the salary offered was such that he probably would accept.

## SUGGESTS FEDERAL OFFER.

Omaha, Neb., Jan. 26.—Arthur Thomason, star outfielder and batter of the Omaha Western league club, returned his signed contract Thursday. Thomason had received a flattering offer, it was said, from the Federal league.

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